

#13/4B

Docket No. 77670/495

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: Hiroyuki NAKANE, et al.

Serial No.: 08/898,560

Filing Date: July 22, 1997

For: FARNESYL DIPHOSPHATE SYNTHASE

Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: Einar Stole

Ukh
8-13-98

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT AND REPLY

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed May 11, 1998. Accordingly, this response is due on or before Tuesday, August 11, 1998.

Please amend the subject application as follows.

In the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows.

Page 13, line 24, change "cultivating" to --cultivating--.

In the Claims

Please rewrite claims 1 and 6 as new claims 17 and 18, respectively.

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~ Claim 17. A mutant prenyl diphosphate synthase having a modified amino acid sequence, wherein

said mutant prenyl diphosphate synthase comprises an aspartic acid-rich domain having the sequence, $D_1D_2X_1X_2(X_3X_4)D_3$, in region II of said mutant prenyl diphosphate synthase,

wherein each of D_1 , D_2 and D_3 denote an aspartic acid residue ; X_1 , X_2 , X_3 and X_4 are each independently any amino acid and X_3 and X_4 are each optionally

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